

normal leaves, each of the lowest being subtended by an abortive stamen. This flower illustrates phyllody of the perianth and median leafy and floral proliferation.

Another flower has its perianth green and leaf-like and the stamens similarly abnormal. From the center of the flower the axis is prolonged, bearing 4 mm. above a pair of opposite bracts, then 3 mm. above these a proliferous flower having its perianth foliaceous and bearing on the disc a tuft of green leaves, most of which subtend an abortive stamen.

Still another flower had the perianth enlarged and foliaceous and within it the same type of abortive stamens. From the center of the flower the axis is prolonged and 7 mm. above bears normal involucre bracts subtending 7 rays. These are about 4 mm. long and each bears a flower with a foliaceous perianth subtending abnormal stamens and on the center of the disc a tuft of green leaves. It is probable that dissection of more of the flowers would show still other types of abnormality, but those already described illustrate sufficiently the abnormal inflorescence of this monstrosity in *Aralia hispida*. Nowhere does the plant show any sign of an injury that might have been the cause of such an abnormal development.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

A NORTHEASTERN VARIETY OF PANICUM

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FOR several summers there has been found on the sandy shores of ponds in Plymouth County and Cape Cod, Massachusetts, a *Panicum* which seems to bridge the gap between the sections *Dichotomiflora* and *Capillaria* as these groups are treated in Hitchcock & Chase's "North American Species of Panicum." Although showing undoubted connection with *P. dichotomiflorum* Michx., it has the low, slender habit, diffuse ovoid panicles, and small, long-pedicelled spikelets, that are characteristic of *P. Tuckermanni* Fernald¹ and *P. Gattingeri* Nash. There is furthermore a tendency toward pubescence, although many specimens are glabrous. Transitional forms show distinctly the relation to the typical *P. dichotomiflorum*. Both *P. Tuck-*

¹ RHODORA, XXI, 112 (1919).

ermanni and *P. Gattingeri* have a much denser pubescence, more pointed spikelets, and pubescent nodes. The form under discussion has glabrous nodes. From *P. capillare* it can be distinguished by the glabrous pulvini.¹



Fig. 1. *P. dichot. v. puritanorum*
X 0.3

tibus plerumque flaccidis vel ad maturitatem marcescentibus et caryopsin denudantibus.

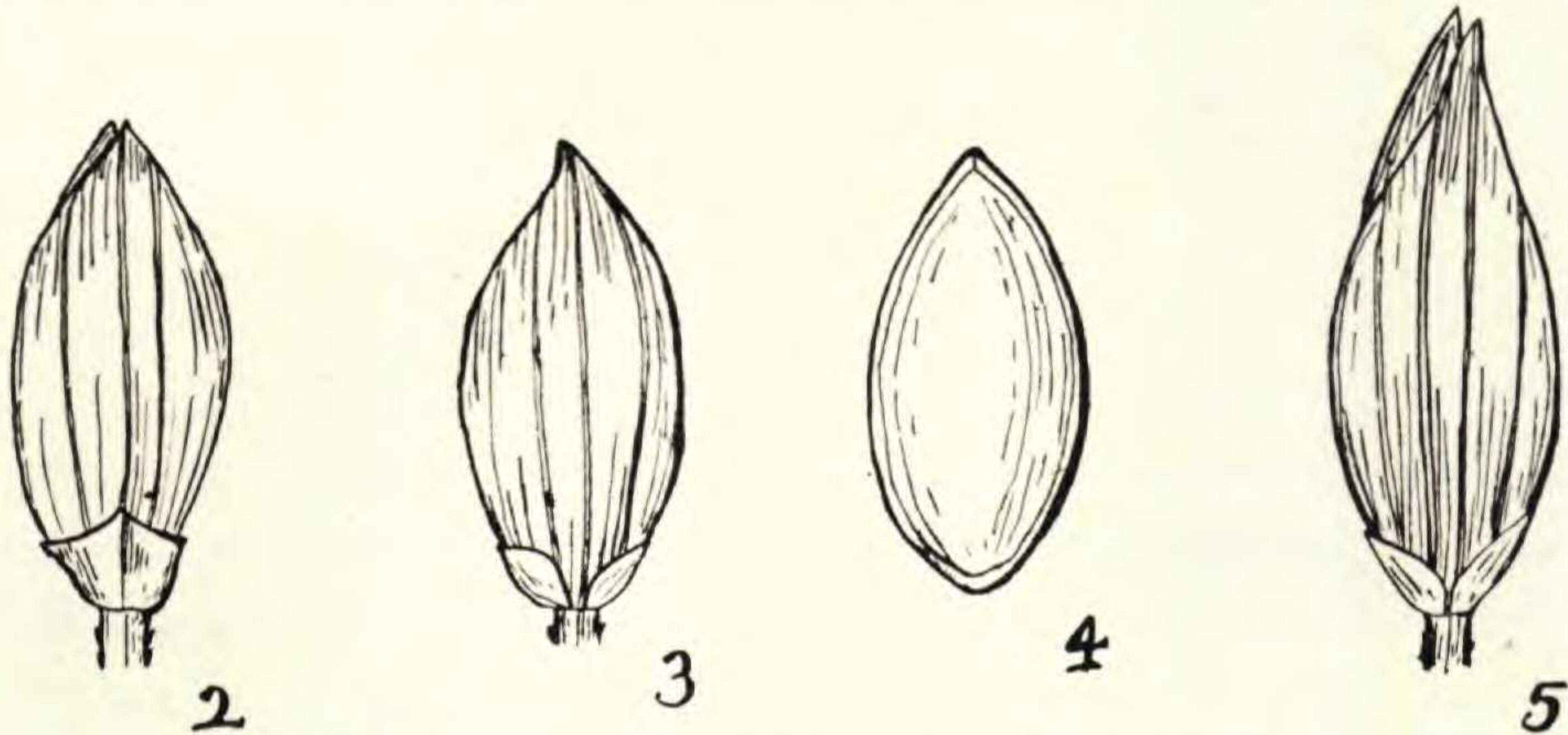
Culms usually erect, solitary or numerous, simple or branching from base and nodes, 0.5–6 dm. long, leafy throughout: sheaths glabrous or pilose, blades 2–40 cm. long, 0.1–8 mm. broad, long-acuminate,

So far as is known this plant occurs only on the sandy pond-shores of southeastern Massachusetts. It is distinguished from the typical *P. dichotomiflorum* by low habit, and scattered inflorescence of small, blunt spikelets with long pedicels. Most characteristic are the second glume and sterile lemma which are somewhat membranaceous, and have a tendency to spread and wither at maturity, exposing the fruit. This plant is worthy of varietal separation as:

PANICUM DICHOTOMIFLORUM Michx., var. **puritanorum**, n. var., annuum, culmis plerumque erectis rare decumbentibus vel solitariis vel numerosis furcatisque, 0.5–6 dm. longis ubique foliosis; vaginibus glabris vel pilosis, laminis 2–40 cm. longis, 0.1–8 mm. latis longe acuminatis laxe adscendentibus glabris vel hispidis; paniculis numerosis vel solitariis, primariis breviter exsertis, late ovoideis, 3–25 cm. longis; ramis primum adscendentibus deinde divergentibus vel rare reflexis, pulvinis glabris; spiculis ovoideis, longe pedicellatis, 1.8–2.2 mm. longis, 0.8–1.1 mm. latis obtusis vel acutiusculis, gluma prima deltoideo-orbiculare spiculo quater vel quinquies brevior; gluma altera et lemmate sterili 5–7-nervatis, submembranaceis caryopsin vix superantibus plerumque flaccidis vel ad maturitatem marcescentibus et caryopsin denudantibus.

¹ For elucidation of this character see RHODORA, l. c. III.

loosely ascending, glabrous or hispid: panicles solitary or many, short-exserted, broadly ovoid, 3–25 cm. long; branches at first ascending, later divergent, rarely reflexed: pulvini glabrous; spikelets long-pedicelled, ovoid, 1.8–2.2 mm. long, 0.8–1.1 mm. broad, blunt or somewhat pointed: first glume deltoid-orbicular, one-fifth to one-fourth the



Figs. 2–4. *P. dichot. v. puritanorum*. Spikelets $\times 15$.
Fig. 5. *P. dichot. typical*. Spikelet $\times 15$.

length of the spikelet; second glume and sterile lemma equal, 5–7-nerved, slightly exceeding the fruit, submembranaceous, usually withering and exposing the fruit at maturity.—Plymouth and Barnstable counties, Massachusetts. The following specimens are characteristic: MASSACHUSETTS: Plymouth, *Oakes* (in Gray Herb.); damp sandy beach, Boot Pond, Plymouth, Sept. 6, 1913, *Fernald et al.*; damp sandy beach, Great South Pond, Plymouth, Sept. 6, 1913, *Fernald*; gravelly and sandy beach, Little Sandy Pond, Plymouth, Aug. 7, 1918, *Fernald & Clark*; sandy shore, Bang's Pond, Harwich, Sept. 16, 1916, *Clark & Hunnewell*; dry sandy and gravelly beach, Half-way Pond, Barnstable, Sept. 13, 1919, *Fernald* (TYPE in Gray Herb.); sandy beach, Crooked Pond, Falmouth, Aug. 23, 1919, *Fernald & Long*; sandy beach, Long Pond, Falmouth, Oct. 4, 1919, *Fernald*.

Occasional specimens, with small pointed spikelets, which are clearly transitional forms, are found in eastern Massachusetts and at one or two stations in the Connecticut Valley.

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GAULTHERIA PROCUMBENS, L., forma **suborbiculata**, n. f. foliis suborbiculatis vel late ovatis vel late obovatis basi apiceque rotundatis plerumque 2.5–4 cm. latis.

Leaves suborbicular, broad-ovate or broad-obovate, rounded to base and apex, mostly 2.5–4 cm. broad.—MASSACHUSETTS: damp thicket and border of woods, Harwichport, Harwich, May 11, 1919,